



## What is an Independent Living Center?

An **ILC** (Independent Living Center) is a consumer controlled, community based, cross disability, non-residential private non-profit agency that is designed and operated within a local community by individuals with disabilities. The 4 North Dakota ILC's offer five core services mandated by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, Title VII, Chapter 1 and H.R. 803-113th Congress: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

### **The core services are as follows:**

Information and Referral

Individual Advocacy

Independent Living Skills Training

Peer Mentoring & Systems Advocacy

Transition Services

In next quarter's newsletter, we will break down all of these services to explain them more clearly.

### **Mission Statement:**

The Dakota Center for Independent Living believes in self-determination for people with disabilities and helps to create the environment in which it is achieved.

"The contents of this newsletter were developed under a grant from the Department of Human Services. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Human Services, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government."

# PEOPLE NEEDING PEOPLE

Do you know what services and activities are offered at DCIL? Here are just a few. Contact us to see how you can become part of one or more of these groups or if you know of someone else that might benefit from participating in one of these social groups.

Men's and Women's  
Coffee Club



Empowerment  
Group

Brain Injury

Support Group



**CALL US AT:**  
**701-222-3636**

## FUNDRAISER AUCTION

We want you to see some of the items that were purchased with monies received at the fundraiser auction held in March of 2017. We are able to demonstrate these items on our AT table that we set up at events within our service area and also for drawings at these different events. We are preparing to host another fundraising auction in April 2018. Please contact us if you would like to contribute to this event.

**701-222-3636**



## NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH THEME ANNOUNCED

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy announced today that "Inclusion Drives Innovation" will be the theme of National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October 2017.

"Americans of all abilities must have access to good, safe jobs," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta. "Smart employers know that including different perspectives in problem-solving situations leads to better solutions. Hiring employees with diverse abilities strengthens their business, increases competition, and drives innovation.

Every October, NDEAM celebrates individuals with disabilities and their contributions and achievements to the American workforce.

ODEP created this year's theme with input from a wide variety of its partner organizations, including those representing employers, people with disabilities and their families, and federal state, and local agencies.

In 1945, Congress declared the first week of October as 'National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.' In 1962, the word "physically" was dropped to acknowledge individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to NDEAM. In 2001, ODEP was established and formally began selecting the NDEAM theme.

## CITY COMMISSION PASSES ORDINANCE FOR ACCESSIBLE TAXI'S IN BISMARCK.



**Key items in the amended ordinance include having one operable accessible vehicle in service at all times and operated by a driver trained in assisting passengers with a disability. Any taxicab licensee renewing their licenses in December 2017 has until July 1, 2018 to provide proof they have an accessible taxi cab. Any taxicab licensee applying for a new license after January 1, 2018 shall meet this requirement immediately. Any taxicab licensee whose fleet is limited to one taxicab shall comply and at such time as it changes or replaces that taxicab or adds one or more taxicabs to its fleet, it is required to meet these changes. Additional fee or fair cannot be charged for use of an accessible taxi or for serving persons with disabilities. A licensee may not charge a fee for an attendant acting on behalf of and traveling with a passenger with a disability.**



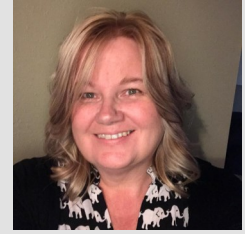
## **FOR SALE**

**2003 Ford  
accessible van  
FOR SALE.**

**If you are interested:  
CONTACT Pat or Sandy at  
701-989-4415**

## **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER**

Ruth, thank you so much for your service to the people at the Bismarck Senior Center. Your help with computer and cell phone assistance class is greatly appreciated.



### **LITTLE FREE PANTRY**

We all have times or struggles of hardship from time to time. What better way to help our neighbors and friends than this. It's easy, it's convenient, and it is a creative way to help our community. Find one of these pantries and add your gift of kindness to it. Some child will thank you that they were able to sleep with food in their tummies tonight.

#### **Shepherd of the Valley**

801 E Denver Ave

#### **Pioneer Elementary School**

1400 Braman Ave

#### **Youthworks**

217 W Rosser Ave

#### **Missouri Slope Areawide United Way**

515 N 4th St

#### **Unitarian Universalist Church**

818 E Divide Ave

#### **S&S Roadrunner Sales**

1700 Commerce Dr, Bismarck, ND 58501



## **HEAVENS HELPERS**

### **SOUP CAFE**

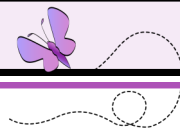
**Heavens Helpers Soup Café has been making progress on getting the building ready for serving the homeless.**

**Mark Meier is the executive director of the soup café, and he is saying that the volunteers are a God send and the community has been giving him great support.**

**“It’s a lot of work. I know how to make soup, I don’t know how to renovate”, Mark says. If you’d like to help volunteer, you can call Mark at 701-226-2325.**

**He says that the kitchen should be ready for opening in November.**





### Walter's Story

On a cool September day Walter entered into DCIL, homeless. He had been referred to us by Social Security for our Representative Payee Services. Walter had been living at Ruth Meier's Drop in Center and was looking for housing. He had no transportation. This once very hardworking, intelligent man was now walking a different road in life; an unexpected road caused by some disabilities he had acquired.

One of the first services he received from DCIL was assistance with filling out a Transit application.

Walter, a pleasant, single man, stated that he was motivated to acquire housing and a job. He chose to be a consumer at DCIL and agreed to work towards the goals that he would set for himself.

He was able to move into the Lewis and Clark Building in Mandan where he lived for 8 years as he was rebuilding his life. He was always very grateful for the assistance. He was determined. He received assistance from West Central Human Services in Bismarck and Community Action helped him with Shelter Plus Care.

While he was in ND, thanks to Medicaid Benefits, he was able to communicate his physical impairments and receive the medical help that he needed, including getting on a vitamin regiment. While enjoying the newfound health, being determined, he gave up smoking.

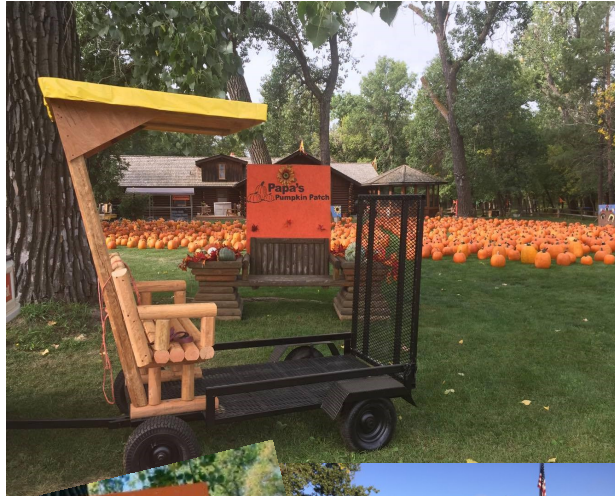
In the course of the 8 years that he was a consumer at DCIL, of the 16 goals that Walter set for himself, he completed all of them very successfully. Community based living, transportation, personal resource management, self-advocacy, self-care and learning new technology were a few of the goals he had set and he was always willing to work diligently towards completing those goals. Walter has a strong work ethic and started his independence by working for Command Center. There were struggles, there were challenges, and Walter worked diligently to overcome those by self-determination. Walters's successes were many, but he understood that this was all a process. As he grew to become more and more independent, he always wanted to work as much as possible according the rules set up by SSI.

His advocate at DCIL wondered about his family. Walter stated he had a sister residing in Hollywood, CA. The advocate located her on Social Media and after 10 years, Walter was reunited with his sister, elderly mother and family.

Through weekly communication with his sister, he has decided to move to Ohio and be there for his family.

Walter, always the optimist, once stated when asked what it felt like to be homeless, "How can I be homeless, when I have the sky above me, and the earth below me?" While visiting with Walter the week before he moved, we asked him, "Where do you see your life going from here? What goals do you have before you?" Walter stated, "I've done it before, I've done it before, I've done it before, I'll do it again." Walter, good luck with the rest of your journey we call life.

# ACCESSIBILITY NEWS



**Papa's Pumpkin Patch now has an accessible car for their train. It was constructed to hold one accessible chair/scooter and a companion. Thank you so much for your care and concern for your patrons. Papa's is an asset to our community.**

**Visit their website:**

**[https://  
papaspumpkinpatch.com/](https://papaspumpkinpatch.com/)**

**Find them at: 5001 Fernwood Drive  
Bismarck, ND 58503**



## **AN ACCESSIBLE MUSEUM IN OUR BACKYARD**

**In 1974 a railroad committee was formed within the Morton County Historical Society to construct what is now the North Dakota State Railroad Museum. We are so thrilled that after meeting with our Director, they made some accessibility changes and it is now accessible to people in wheelchairs and scooters.**

**<http://www.ndsrm.org/>**



*Thank  
You*

Menards is TRULY an outstanding business in the Bismarck community. Menards worked with myself after my spinal cord injury to maintain employment. In September, I will have been employed there twelve years. I have held many different positions within the company and have enjoyed many. I currently am working in the cabinet and appliance department designing and doing sales, very rewarding! Menards also employs at least another fifteen employees with disabilities at some level. Most of these employees work part time and are also long-term employees. The great thing about Menards is that they don't discriminate. All of us 15+ employees are not in the same department or doing the same job. The levels of disabilities range from almost non-existent to severe like mine in some cases. We are all treated like family here. I believe this is in great part to the General Manager Brian Frank. Thank You Brian for taking that chance on me 8 years ago and sticking by me through it all!

Alicia Rombs



**MENARDS**®

*Dedicated to Service & Quality*™

## FALL OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR MEDICARE

Fall Open Enrollment runs from October 15 through December 7 each year, and it's a time when you can make changes to your Medicare coverage if you want to. During this time you can:

- ◆ Join a new Medicare Advantage Plan
- ◆ Join a new Part D prescription drug plan
- ◆ Switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage Plan
- ◆ Switch from a Medicare Advantage Plan to Original Medicare

Contact **Susan at DCIL**. She can review your current plan with you and if you want changes made, she can help. **Call 222-3636**

**If you have mobility issues and cannot come into the office, ask us about the 211 Part D Intake Call Center.**



**BE CAREFUL FOR SCAM PHONE CALLS. DO NOT GIVE ANY PERSONAL INFO OVER THE PHONE.**

## **LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR A FOCUS GROUP**



**Are you a women between the ages of 18-50 with a physical disability? The University of Michigan Medicine is recruiting women from across the nation to be part of a focus group regarding their health and well-being. This meeting will last 2 hours and will be held at Dakota Center for Independent Living. Each participant, IF SELECTED, will be given a gift card of \$25.00 for their time and effort. Lunch will be served. Date and time for the focus group will be determined after the participants have been identified. If you are interested or would like more information, give Jeannie a call at 222-3636**

Dakota Center for Independent Living  
3111 East Broadway Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-222-3636  
Toll Free: 1-800-489-5013  
Fax: 701-222-0511

DCIL has a satellite office in  
Dickinson, ND. They can be  
Reached at: 1-701-483-4363

Web address: [dakotacil.org](http://dakotacil.org)

**If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail,  
please contact**

**Vicki at DCIL by calling (701) 222-3636**